

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01924 280255Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 280244Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5373

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1924

EXDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ANZUS, MNUC, PARM, NZ

SUBJ: SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (SPNFZ)

REF: CANBERRA 1839, WELLINGTON 822

1. WILLIAM PRITCHETT, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENCE FOR POLICY AND PLANS, IS CONCERNED THAT GNZ WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH SPNFZ AND COULD CAUSE REAL PROBLEMS AT UN THIS AUTUMN. PRITCHETT WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT WHITLAM FAILED TO PERSUADE ROWLING TO DROP THE PROJECT. (IN PRITCHETT'S OPINION WHITLAM WOULD HAVE BEEN STILL TOUGHER WITH ROWLING HAD HE RECEIVED ADOD BRIEF STRESSING AUSTRALIA'S STRATEGIC SELF-INTEREST IN KILLING SPNFZ INSTEAD OF A DFA BRIEF WHICH EMPHASIZED AMERICAN OPPOSITION.)

2. PRITCHETT BELIEVES THAT NEW ZEALAND MFA SECRETARY FRANK CORNER (AN OLD FRIEND OF HIS) IS IRRESPONSIBLY ENCOURAGING HIS GOVERNMENT IN THIS PROPOSAL AND REGARDS CORNER AS MALICIOUS EVEN DANGEROUS INFLUENCE. PRITCHETT ASKED, "WHAT
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DID YOU AMERICANS DO TO CORNER DURING HIS WASHINGTON

TOUR TO MAKE HIM SO HOSTILE TOWARD U.S.?" (INTERESTINGLY, DFA SECRETARY RENOUF, WHO SHARES PRITCHETT'S VIEWS ABOUT CORNER'S ANIMOSITY TOWARD U.S., FOUND CORNER MORE BALANCED THAN IN RECENT PAST DURING CANBERRA VISIT WITH ROWLING MARCH 24.)

3. PRITCHETT BELIEVES THAT U.S. AD AUSTRALIA SHOULD PLACE SPNFZ UPON AGENDA FOR ANZUS TALKS IN APRIL, DISCUSS PROBLEM EXPLICITLY WITH GNZ, AND MAKE SURE THAT ANY GNZ ACTION TAKEN AT UN BE FULLY COORDINATED IN ADVANCE AND HAVE NO POTENTIAL DELETERIOUS EFFECT UPON ANZUS INTERESTS.

4. PRITCHETT WILL SEE THAT TEXT OF CURRENT GNZ PROPOSAL IS PASSED TO US THROUGH ADOD REP LANDAU IN WASHINGTON.
HARROP

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NNN

Message Attributes

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